

## Appointment of New Head of NLM's NN/LM Office

-- Betsy Humphreys, Associate Director for Library Operations, NLM, Bethesda, MD

I am very pleased to announce that Angela B. Ruffin, Ph.D. has been appointed the new Head, National Network of Libraries of Medicine (NN/LM) Office in the Library Operations division of the National Library of Medicine (NLM). Dr. Ruffin has 10 years of successful experience in coordinating outreach programs for the NN/LM Office, starting with the first round of Grateful Med outreach projects. For the past several years, she has also played a key role in NLM's Partners in Information Outreach to Public Health Professionals initiative. Prior to coming to NLM, Dr. Ruffin taught at several Schools of Library

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## HealthInfoQuest: Pathfinders to Common Consumer Health Questions

--Maureen Carleton, Medical Reference Specialist, King County Library System, Seattle, WA

*Reprinted with permission from the Spring, 2000 issue of Dragonfly, the newsletter of the NN/LM, Pacific Northwest Region (PNR).*

The NN/LM is pleased to announce the availability of a Web based tutorial for librarians and others who provide information on consumer health questions: HealthInfoQuest (<http://www.nlm.nih.gov/healthinfoquest>). HealthInfoQuest was developed with funding from the NLM under a subcontract with NN/LM PNR. It is a response to requests from public libraries across the country for Web-based training on how to find authoritative and reliable health information on the World Wide Web.

Pathfinders are a time-honored tradition in public libraries. HealthInfoQuest pathfinders are designed for public librarians and health information specialists whose learning style is

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## Web-Based DOCLINE is here!!!

-- Re Mishra, Network Coordinator

On July 17, 2000, the much-anticipated Web based DOCLINE was released. The response to the new system has been extremely favorable, both regionally and nationally. People find it to be user-friendly and more flexible than the old system. The credit goes to the NLM's DOCLINE Team. Please join me in thanking them for their hard work in making this complicated system as easy to use as possible, and for their on-going commitment to implementing improvements and DOCLINE participants' suggestions whenever possible.

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## Network News

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of Medicine,  
South Central Region

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## Web-Based DOCLINE is here!!!, *cont. from p. 1*

Now that the system is live, we need to learn to use the new system effectively. The NN/LM SCR has scheduled Web based DOCLINE classes throughout the region during the summer, and additional classes will be scheduled in the coming months as necessary. Meanwhile, to start learning the new system, check out DOCLINE Survival Links (<http://www.nlm.nih.gov/libinfo/docline>). This site offers links to useful DOCLINE-related Web pages including the Online Manual, the DOCLINE tutorial, and QuickDOC information pages.

Please contact me if you would like a class scheduled in your area. As always, I am available to answer any questions or comments. I hope to see you in one of my classes. ■

## Join the NN/LM SCR Listserv Today!

A valuable forum for exchanging information, ideas, and resources pertinent to medical librarians!

Subscribe to the list by sending an e-mail message to: [listserv@lib40.library.tmc.edu](mailto:listserv@lib40.library.tmc.edu). Do not put anything in the subject line, and in the body (message area) type the following:

subscribe nnlmscr *firstname lastname*.

Note: Replace *firstname* and *lastname* with your own name!

Additional information is available at <http://www.nlm.nih.gov/scr/aboutus/listsrv.html>.

## Appointment of New Head of NLM's NN/LM Office,

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and Information Science and served as media coordinator for the Durham City Schools. Dr. Ruffin has a B.A. from Spelman College, an M.S.L.S. from Atlanta University (now Clark-Atlanta University), and an Ed.M in educational psychology from Boston University. She received her Ph.D. in Information and Library Science from the University of North Carolina, Chapel Hill. Dr. Ruffin's experience in school librarianship and in graduate library science education will be particularly valuable as the NN/LM expands its interactions with community-based organizations to improve the public's access to health information, and NLM increases its efforts to promote the recruitment of high quality people of diverse backgrounds into health science librarianship. ■

## HealthInfoQuest: Pathfinders to Common Consumer Health Questions, *cont. from p. 1*

primarily visual or graphic. HealthInfoQuest pathfinders encourage users to practice finding answers to common consumer health and complementary and alternative medicine (CAM) questions while reinforcing information-seeking processes, which will assist them in similar situations in the future.

HealthInfoQuest is the result of collaboration between Maureen Carleton, Medical Reference Specialist with the King County Library System, and Barbara Macfadden, Instructional Technology Developer at the

University of Washington's Health Sciences Center for Educational Resources. They have created a series of Web based pathfinders designed to offer an intuitive interface to health information, which can be accessed at the point of need for independent learning or review. The CAM pathfinders were created by Jane Saxton, Reference Librarian at Bastyr University Library, located in Kenmore, Washington, an accredited, private institution, internationally recognized as a pioneer in the study of natural medicine. ■

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## NLM and the Medical Library Association to Support Scholarships, Recruitment for Minority Medical Librarians

The NLM has provided \$102,000 to the Medical Library Association (MLA) to encourage minority students to choose health science librarianship as a career.

Through this support, the NLM will enable MLA to strengthen the Association's programs for recruiting minorities into the medical library profession and to increase scholarship opportunities for minority students seeking degrees in librarianship. NLM funds will be used to increase the size of the MLA's existing minority scholarship, to support, in partnership with MLA, the American Library Association's Spectrum Scholars program to attract students of color to graduate programs in library and information studies, and for outreach to minority college and high school students.

For many years NLM has actively recruited minority graduates of library schools to the NLM Associate Fellowship program, a highly successful post-masters internship program designed to develop future leaders in health sciences librarianship. (Information about the program is at <http://www.nlm.nih.gov/about/training/associate/index.html>.) Although these recruitment efforts have been successful in attracting some outstanding minority participants into the program, there is a distinct need to create more minority applicants in the pipeline.

"Only 9.5% of current library school graduates are members of minority groups. To increase diversity in health sciences librarianship we must greatly increase diversity in librarianship as a whole. MLA is very pleased to be working with NLM and with the American Library Association on concrete steps toward this goal," said J. Michael Homan, current MLA President.

NLM Associate Director for Library Operations, Betsy L. Humphreys, stated that, "Expanding the number of minorities in librarianship becomes even more critical as patients, family members, and the public turn to the World Wide Web and local libraries for health information. We need diversity if we are to build health information services that are understandable and sensitive to the concerns of all who need them."

The Houston Academy of Medicine-Texas Medical Center Library, the Regional Medical Library for the NN/LM SCR, coordinated the work on behalf of the NLM. The project officer for the Medical Library Association is Carla J. Funk, Executive Director, 312 419-9094, ext. 14; email: [funk@mlahq.org](mailto:funk@mlahq.org). ■

## Staff News

On July 13, Marsha Sullivan left the NN/LM SCR office to assume the Consumer Health Librarian position in the Houston Academy of Medicine-Texas Medical Center Library. We appreciate Marsha's efforts during her time in the NN/LM SCR Office and wish her well in her new position.

Barbara Cosart, previously the NN/LM SCR Outreach Coordinator, assumed the position of Consumer

Health Coordinator on July 17. Barbara has a background in public libraries. This is a great opportunity for her and the region.

John Harold left his position as NN/LM SCR Technology-Education Coordinator on August 4. His new position involves software programming for a private corporation. We wish John well in his future endeavors. ■

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## Six New Library Improvement Project Sites Selected

--Barbara Cosart, Consumer Health Coordinator

Please join us in congratulating the following Network members on being selected as Library Improvement Project (LIP) sites:

Crownpoint Healthcare Facility, IHS, Crownpoint, NM  
Purcell Municipal Hospital, Purcell, OK  
Texoma Medical Center, Denison, TX  
Doctors Hospital, Groves, TX

Longview Regional Medical Center, Longview, TX  
Terrell State Hospital, Terrell, TX.

Each LIP site receives a new computer, printer, Internet Service Provider funding, and fax machine. In addition, they receive a document delivery subsidy and training on the NLM's online resources. ■

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## Internet Connectivity Project Sites for Year 05

--Barbara Cosart, Consumer Health Coordinator

Seven new Internet Connectivity Project (ICP) sites have been implemented for Year 05:

Baptist Memorial Hospital, Osceola AR  
Northeastern Regional Hospital, Las Vegas, NM  
Corpus Christi Medical Center, Corpus Christi TX  
Yoakum County Hospital, Denver City, TX  
Vencor Hospital, Fort Worth, TX

Baylor Medical Center at Garland, Garland, TX  
Wichita Falls Family Practice Residency Program, Zale Health Science Center, Wichita Falls, TX.

ICP sites are provided with a computer, printer, fax machine, and funding for an Internet Service Provider for one year. ■

### Newsletter To Go Electronic

Beginning January 2001, *Network News*, the regional newsletter for the NN/LM SCR, will be available only in an electronic format. Details of the new format, including how to subscribe, will be announced in the next two issues of *Network News*.



## MEDLINEplus Makeover

--Barbara Cosart, Consumer Health Coordinator

MEDLINEplus has a new look! Based on usability studies, the changes in the National Library of Medicine's consumer health information service make the site more user-friendly. From the main page, users choose between five portals representing different categories of information - Health Topics, Drug Information, Dictionaries, Directories, and Other Resources (such as associations.)

The interface is attractive and uncluttered, and with its simplicity, it aims to reduce confusion. A search box, strategically placed on the MEDLINEplus banner, caters to those who wish to perform a keyword search.



The Health Topics category has likewise been simplified. Instead of the intimidating pull-down menu showing "Blood/Lymphatic System" as the default, once the users click on Health Topics, they are taken to a page listing broad topic groups from which they may choose. The option to search for a topic alphabetically is also here, as well as the ever-present search box. Frequently Requested Topics are presented to the right of the list, as well as the medical encyclopedia, Adam.com.

Once a topic is selected, the user is taken directly to information links with no initial scrolling necessary. A table of contents on the left-hand side gives the user the option of jumping to a subsection such as "treatment." On each page, the user may choose from the initial five broad categories, under the banner, to begin a new search. ■



## NN/LM SCR Positions Available

The Houston Academy of Medicine-Texas Medical Center Library, <http://www.library.tmc.edu/>, serves as the Regional Medical Library for the NN/LM SCR, <http://www.nnlm.nlm.nih.gov/scr/>. States served by the NN/LM SCR include Arkansas, Louisiana, New Mexico, Oklahoma, and Texas.

### Outreach Coordinator

The Outreach Coordinator is responsible for identifying unaffiliated, underserved, and minority health care and information professionals in the SCR; implementing, and working with Network members to implement outreach efforts to serve the SCR; monitoring outreach subcontracts; and assisting with grant applications. This individual will maintain awareness of regional and local trends in health care and library associations; and identify and develop additional outreach opportunities under the direction of the Associate Director.

The Outreach Coordinator reports to the NN/LM SCR Associate Director.

#### Duties:

Plan and coordinate all programs and activities related to outreach programs under the direction of the Associate Director.

- Identify unaffiliated, underserved, and minority health professionals
- Organize and monitor regional outreach projects
  - Assist in the development of outreach subcontracts
  - Review reports and develop evaluation mechanisms for quarterly reports
  - Communicate with outreach subcontractors regarding projects
  - Maintain files on outreach projects
- Implement and monitor Library Improvement Project sites
- Coordinate and make site visits to outreach project sites and to other Network members
- Monitor HIV/AIDS, Native American, and Indian Health Service projects
- Organize and lead two Outreach Committee meetings per year
- Develop and teach grant writing materials, packets, classes, etc.

- Develop and maintain grant mentors
- Provide assistance with grant applications
- Assist in reviewing proposals, as applicable
- Maintain NN/LM SCR Councils
  - Serve as liaison to the Council of Health Professionals
- Monitor consortia, and promote development, as applicable
  - Serve as liaison to consortia
- Test new library software/databases available from NLM and other vendors as assigned
- Assist with PubMed/Internet Grateful Med/Loansome Doc/MEDLINEplus (PM/IGM/LD/M+) demos
- Coordinate and teach PM/IGM/LD/M+ training for health professionals and Network members
- Coordinate and teach PM/IGM/LD/M+ Train-the-Trainer classes
- Provide consultation services for PM/IGM/LD/M+
- Provide NLM with a list of national health/librarian-related meetings scheduled in region at which the NN/LM SCR can potentially exhibit
- Coordinate and attend assigned national/regional exhibits
- Write and submit articles to *Network News* on regional outreach funding opportunities and on-going projects
- Other duties as assigned

**Qualifications:** At a Librarian II level, this position requires an M.L.S. with a minimum of three years experience, including two years of proven advanced teaching and database skills and knowledge; excellent written, oral, teaching, and curriculum development skills; current knowledge of technologies in medical libraries; working knowledge of PM/IGM/LD/M+ and HTML. Knowledge of Microsoft Office, other NLM and NCBI databases, grants, subcontracts, and project evaluation is preferred. Must be able to manage multiple tasks and function in a team environment, as well as independently. A valid driver's license and travel is required.

Minimum Salary: \$35,000 annually

Position is currently available. Applications will be accepted until the position is filled.

## Technology-Education Coordinator

The Technology-Education Coordinator is responsible for promoting and maintaining an awareness of the Internet and new technologies relevant to communication and information access within the SCR, and overseeing all Internet and electronic publication functions of the NN/LM SCR. This person is also responsible for developing and teaching classes on PM/IGM/M+ and the Internet.

The Technology-Education Coordinator reports to the NN/LM SCR Associate Director.

### Duties:

- Develop and teach classes for librarians and health professionals, to include but not limited to PM/IGM/M+ and the Internet, Web page development, HTML, and bibliographic management tools to librarians, health professionals and consumers
- Develop and teach PM/IGM/M+ and the Internet Train-the-Trainer classes to library information professionals
- Assist librarians in integrating Internet Technologies into their services
- Maintain list of regional Internet Service Providers
- Serve as NN/LM SCR webmaster and member of the NN/LM Web Team
- Maintain NN/LM SCR, Board, and Council listservs
- Respond to information requests from SCR staff and SCR Network members concerning microcomputer hardware/software and the Internet
- Provide PM/IGM/M+ assistance for librarians and health professionals
- Test new library software/databases available from NLM and other vendors as assigned
- Assist NN/LM SCR staff with production of electronic publications
- Serve as liaison to NN/LM SCR Council of Technology Specialists
- Chair the NN/LM SCR Technology/Internet Advisory Committee
- Write articles on technology and biomedical information sources for SCR newsletter and other publications, including regional consortia newsletters
- Assist with PM/IGM/M+ demos, exhibits and other activities as needed
- Assist with development and evaluation of goals and objectives for the program
- Other duties as assigned

**Qualifications:** At a Librarian II level, this position requires an MLS with a minimum of three years experience including two years of proven advanced teaching and database skills and knowledge; excellent written, oral communication, and teaching skills with the ability to explain technological skills in plain English; curriculum development skills; a working knowledge of current technologies in medical libraries; proficiency with PM/IGM/M+ and other NLM databases; a working knowledge of Internet protocols such as FTP and Telnet; proven Web site creation and publishing skills; proven experience teaching Web searching; familiarity with Internet communications applications such as NetTerm; working knowledge of Microsoft WindowsNT 4.0 and Office 97, and UNIX. Telephone and e-mail technical support experience desired. Working knowledge of HTML, CGI, Perl, MySQL and/or PHP. This person will stay current with knowledge of microcomputer applications, operating systems, and telecommunications issues. A valid driver's license and travel is required.

Minimum Salary: \$35,000 annually

Position is currently available.

The HAM-TMC library is an equal opportunity and affirmative action institution providing access to employment without regard to age, race, color, national origin, gender, religion, sexual orientation, veteran's status, political affiliations, or disability.

Please forward CV, including cover letter, to:

Zina Hayes, Human Resources Associate

HAM-TMC Library

1133 M.D. Anderson Blvd.

Houston, TX 77030-2809

[zinah@library.tmc.edu](mailto:zinah@library.tmc.edu)

Phone: 713 799-7116

Fax: 713 790-7052

Inquiries regarding these positions can be forwarded to:

Renée Bougard, Associate Director

NN/LM South Central Region

HAM-TMC Library

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[reeneb@library.tmc.edu](mailto:reeneb@library.tmc.edu)

Phone: 713 799-7880

Fax: 713 790-7030 ■

## Schedule of Upcoming Classes in the South Central Region

The following classes are taught by the National Online Training Center (NOTC) staff:

*Keeping Up with NLM's PubMed*

Houston, TX

December 11, 2000

8:30 AM - 5:00 PM

*Introduction to Web based Searching: Using PubMed, Internet Grateful Med to Search NLM's Databases*

Houston, TX

December 12-13, 2000

8:30 AM - 5:30 PM

For additional NOTC classes, class descriptions, and online registrations, check <http://www.nlm.nih.gov/mar/online>.

The following class is taught by the NN/LM SCR staff:

*Web based DOCLINE*

Albuquerque, NM

September 26, 2000

9:00 AM - 4:00 PM

For NN/LM SCR class descriptions and online registrations, check <http://www.nlm.nih.gov/scr/calendar>.

### *Network News*

National Network of Libraries of Medicine,  
South Central Region  
Houston Academy of Medicine-Texas Medical  
Center Library  
1133 M.D. Anderson Boulevard  
Houston, TX 77030-2809

Nonprofit Organization  
U.S. Postage  
PAID  
Houston, Texas  
Permit No. 5142